

REMARKS

The present invention is a method and system for provisioning services to a terminal. A method for provisioning services to a terminal UE in accordance with the invention, which terminal is adapted to perform communication via at least one communication network NW1, NW2, each network being equipped with service processing entities SPE1 and SPE2, the method comprising the steps of requesting, by the terminal, a specified service to be at a disposition of the requesting terminal; analyzing the request by an analyzing entity associated with the at least one communication network; deciding, by the analyzing entity, that the requested specified service is associated with a specific one of the service processing entities of a specific one of the at least one communication network; and in response to the decision routing communication messages associated with the terminal via the analyzing entity to the specified service processing entity within the specified communication network.

Claim 39 stands rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Newly submitted claims 60-89 have been drafted to overcome the stated ground of rejection.

Claims 29, 40-42, 53, 54 and 59 stand rejected under 35 USC §102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,687,356 (Glitho). These grounds of rejection are traversed with respect to newly submitted claims 60-89 which have been amended to recite substantively that each network entity is equipped with service processing entities with a decision being made by an analyzing entity that the requested specified service is associated with a specific one of the service processing entities of a specific one of at least one network and in response to the decision routing communication messages associated with the terminal via the analyzing entity to the

specified service processing entity within the specified communication network as substantively recited in independent claims 60 and 74.

Glitho et al., teaches an IP architecture 119 which distinguishes between users and devices and terminals that users may employ such that user-specific parts come with device-specific parts and parts specific to appropriate user/device combinations may be separately designated. See column 4, lines 28-39. As may be seen in Fig. 2, only a single SLE entity 206 is within the architecture 119 which comprises appropriate service logic programs that are executed based on service requests emanating from the switching node 204. See column 4, lines 64-66. It is seen that different devices A-C are connected via the appropriate switching node 204 to a single SLE 206 to provide the aforementioned appropriate service logic programs. Therefore, independent claims 60 and 74 differ from Glitho et al., by reciting multiple service processing entities involved with the aforementioned obtaining of a request from a terminal for a specific service to be at a disposition of the requesting terminal which is analyzed by an analyzing entity and based upon that analysis a particular one of the service processing entities in at least one communication network is chosen so that communication messages are routed through the analyzing entity to the specified service processing entity within the specified communication network. Glitho et al., by disclosing a single SLE 306 has no counterpart of this subject matter.

The claims as amended are substantively those which were found to be patentable in the International Preliminary Report on patentability dated February 2, 2004 which is enclosed. As stated therein in the Reasoned Statement, reference D2, which is a counterpart of the Glitho et al., patent, was found to be distinguished by claims 1-28, which correspond to the current claims except that certain minor amendments have been made to improve their form in accordance with U.S.

practice. As may be seen, the Examiner in the Reasoned Statement specifically discusses the distinction between the claims as presently pending and those originally filed and finds that claims of the same scope as the present claims are patentable since "it is now clearly stated in new independent claims 1 and 14 that not only one serving processing is used, but rather two processing units." This is the same distinction urged above with respect to the differences between Glitho et al., and the current claims.

Claims 30-32, 35-38, 43-45, 58-51 and 55-58 stand rejected under 35 USC §103 as being unpatentable over Glitho et al., in view of U.S. Patent Publication 2003/0212800 (Jones et al.). These grounds of rejection are traversed with respect to newly submitted claims 60-89.

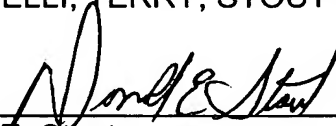
Jones et al. has been cited as teaching routing in a communication network where the service requestors indicate the specified service in a request message. It is submitted that Jones et al., do not cure the deficiencies noted above with respect to Glitho et al.

Claims 33, 34, 39, 46, 47 and 52 stand rejected under 35 USC §103 over Glitho et al., and Jones et al., further in view of U.S. Patent Publication 2003/0041146 (Davis et al.). These grounds of rejection are traversed with respect to newly submitted claims 60-89. Davis et al. has been cited as teaching a connection allocation method that uses service codes representing services via message headers. However, Davis et al. do not cure the deficiencies noted above with respect to Glitho et al., and Jones et al.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is submitted that each of the claims in the application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

Applicants request any shortage or excess in fees in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, and for which no other form of payment is offered, be charged or credited to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 1135.41220X00).

Respectfully submitted,
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